

Creel Survey

May 9, 2016

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Salmon/Steelhead

Cowlitz River – Bank anglers at the barrier dam and boat anglers on the lower river are doing well on spring Chinook.

Last week Tacoma Power recovered 395 winter run steelhead, 17 summer-run steelhead, 1,358 spring Chinook adults, 91 spring Chinook jacks and one cutthroat trout during five days of operations at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator. Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery spring Chinook return as of May 7 is 6,819 adults including 48 natural origin. The 19 year average return for this date is 11.98%.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 12 winter-run steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton, 610 spring Chinook adults, 53 spring Chinook jacks and nine winter-run steelhead into Lake Scanewa above Cowlitz Falls Dam, 176 spring Chinook adults, four jacks and 13 winter-run steelhead into the Cispus River near the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek and 323 spring Chinook adults and 21 jacks at Franklin Bridge in Packwood.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 5,290 cubic feet per second on Monday, May 9. Visibility is seven feet.

Kalama River – Fishing is reported to be better than the creel checks show.

The hatchery spring Chinook escapement goal is about 400 adults. Return as of May 7 is 201 adults including 1 natural origin and 26 Cowlitz origin (ventral clipped). The 12 year average return for this date is 3.15%.

East Fork Lewis River – Little effort and no steelhead catch was observed.

Lewis River (including North Fork) – Little to no effort for steelhead.

The hatchery spring Chinook escapement goal is about 1,300 adults. Return as of May 7 is 95 adults including 9 natural origin. The 12 year average return for this date is 24.10%.

Wind River – Boat anglers averaged a spring Chinook per about 3.5 rods and bank anglers were also doing well, sometimes better than the boats. Some fish are being caught in the gorge.

The Carson National Fish Hatchery fish ladder was opened May 3 and 90 spring Chinook have returned. The hatchery escapement goal is 1,500 fish.

Drano Lake – Catch rate for boat anglers at Drano is about the same as the Wind. Some Carson coded-wire tags have been recovered here which is fairly typical.

Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery fish ladder was opened on May 4 and 900 spring Chinook have returned. The hatchery escapement goal is 1,000 fish.

Klickitat River – Bank anglers below the Fisher Hill Bridge are beginning to catch a few more spring Chinook.

Through May 6, a total of 33 adipose clipped spring Chinook adults have been counted at the Lyle Falls trap. No fish have returned to the Klickitat Salmon Hatchery.

Yakima River – Spring Chinook counts at Prosser have been low so far this spring with only 141 adult Chinook and 2 jacks counted through May 5. Flows in the lower Yakima River remained high during the week averaging 7,183 cfs, range 6,780-7,860cfs.

WDFW staff interviewed 60 anglers fishing in the lower Yakima River (Prosser to Richland). No anglers were observed fishing for salmon this past week.

Sturgeon

John Day Pool – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Fishing is slow fishing from the bank.

Walleye and Bass

Yakima River - Anglers were primarily fishing for smallmouth bass with a few anglers targeting channel catfish. The 41 bass anglers interviewed had harvested 362 fish and released 13, averaging 4.4 bass per hour. From May 1 through May 8 an estimated 6,721 were harvested in the lower river. Bank angling for channel catfish during the daylight was slow with only 7 fish reported from all anglers combined.

The Dalles Pool – Boat anglers sampled averaged over 3 walleye and 16 bass kept/released per rod.

John Day Pool – Including fish released, boat anglers averaged 2 walleye and over 11 bass per rod. Bank anglers were also catching a few fish.

Trout

Recent plants of rainbow trout. No report on angling success is available.

Mayfield Lake – Tacoma Power released 4,000 rainbow trout in Mayfield Lake.

Lake/Pond	Date	Species	Number	Fish per Pound	Hatchery	Notes
FORT BORST PRK LK (LEWI) <i>Lewis County - Region 5</i>	May 02, 2016	Rainbow	2,080	2.08	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY	
LTL KCLICKITAT30.0067 <i>Klickitat County - Region 5</i>	May 03, 2016	Rainbow	540	2.08	GOLDENDALE HATCHERY	